

New York, 3 Dec. 1859.

Dear Mrs. Chapman,

I thank you for your note just received, and I am especially gratified by the freedom with which on this, as on other occasions, you ~~offer~~ give me your judgment as an aid in forming my own. I wish that other leading friends of the cause would imitate your example in this particular. In regard to local matters, I must rely almost solely upon my own judgment, but in regard to questions of a larger kind, I often feel the need of suggestion or advice. Except Mr. Gay, who is now ^{here} very busy with other matters, there is

almost nobody ^{who is qualified, &} ~~whose~~ thorough ac-
quaintance with the cause, to aid
me in a pinch. If only once a ^{month} ~~month~~
I could see our Boston friends familiarly,
as they see each other, I should be in
less danger of losing "concert pitch;" but
I do the best I can in my circumstances,
and ~~leave~~ ^{am} leaving more and more
to depend on my own "light within."

In regard to Dr. Pomroy, I was balan-
ing between ~~an~~ entire silence and just
such a mention of his fall as you sug-
gest. If the procrause of John Brown
matter did not compel me to omit
the column of news items altogether, I
might state the facts in half a dozen
lines, as from another paper; but, as
it is, I think I shall not mention it at

all. I cannot wonder at your apprehensiveness lest I should act unwisely in the matter, but I assure you I was in no danger of speaking an unfit word respecting it.

We had a good meeting at Dr. Cheever's Church last evening. Many noble words were spoken, and the feeling just what was most to be desired.

As for Emerson, I have always thought him vastly overrated. He falls a great way below my estimate of a genuine great man.

Yours faithfully,

Oliver Johnson.

Oliver Johnson
Dec 3rd 1859

Ms. A. 9. 2. 29. 82B